Pension to widows of freedom fighters

†1730. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for providing pension to the widows of freedom fighters; if so, the rules thereof;

(b) whether such pension is divided equally between the widows in case a freedom fighter had two;

(c) whether the surviving widow gets full pension is case of death of one of the two widows;

(d) if so, the number of such cases pending with Government and since when; and

(e) by when such pending cases would be decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, widow of a deceased freedom fighter, who was in receipt of freedom fighters' pension, is entitled to family pension if she has not since remarried. In case the freedom fighter had communicated to the Ministry of Home Affairs the nomination of more than one legally wedded wives as dependents, the family pension admissible to one dependent widow would be shared by them equally. Such widows would not be treated as separate entities for grant of family pension under the Scheme.

(d) As per available records, no such case is pending.

(e) Does not arise.

Increase in visa racket cases

1731. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been an increase in the visa racket cases in the country;

(b) the details of such cases reported in the last three years; State-wise; and

(c) the details of measures taken to curb such activities and to protect the victims of the visa rackets who are facing punishment in different countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) As per readily available information, the data regarding the cases of forged/fake visas detected at the major International Airports during the last three years is as under:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.